REMARKS

Claims 1 and 7 have been amended. Claims 1-11 remain for further consideration. No new matter has been added.

The rejections shall be taken up in the order presented in the Official Action.

3-4. Claims 1-4 and 6 currently stand rejected for allegedly being anticipated by the subject matter disclosed in U.S. Patent 4,031,377 to Deutsch et al (hereinafter "Deutsch").

Claim 1 has been amended to add the feature that the control device generates the first and second shift command signals within one clock cycle. It is submitted that nowhere in Deutsch is there discussion of any type of clock, let alone the specific limitation added herein by amendment to claim 1. Significantly, Deutsch discloses only combinatorial logic, and not sequential (clocked) logic. Thus, it is submitted that claims 1-4 and 6 are hereby allowable.

5-6. Claims 5 and 11 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 in view of the combined subject matter disclosed in Deutsch in view of U.S. Patent 5,402,369 to Main (hereinafter "Main").

It is respectfully submitted that this rejection is now moot, since claims 1 and 7 are patentable for at least all the reasons discussed herein.

7. Claims 7-10 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly being obvious over Deutsch.

In response, claim 7, the independent claim, has been amended herein in a manner similar to the amendment made herein to claim 1; specifically to add the feature that the control device generates the first and second shift command signals within at least one clock cycle. Thus, for

similar reasons as per claim 1, it is submitted that claims 7-10 are hereby allowable.

For all the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-11 is respectfully requested.

If a telephone interview could assist in the prosecution of this application, please call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick O'Shea
Registration No. 35,305
O'Shea, Getz & Kosakowski, P.C.
1500 Main Street, Suite 912
Springfield, MA 01115
Telephone: (413) 731-3100 x102